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In re Application of	: RESPONSE
FEENSTRA, Roelof et al.	:
US Application No.: 09/831,149	: TO REQUEST
PCT Application No.: PCT/EP99/08702	:
Int. Filing Date: 10 November 1999	: UNDER
Priority Date: 03 November 1998	:
Attorney's File Reference: 01975.0031-00	: PCT Rule 17.2
For: NEW PIPERAZINE AND PIPERIDINE	:
COMPOUNDS	:

This letter responds to applicants' "REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE PRIORITY DOCUMENT", filed 09 November 2001, requesting that the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) either acknowledge receipt of EP priority document number 98203871.3 or request that the IB forward a certified copy of the priority document to the DO/EO/US.

On 18 January 2000, the International Bureau (IB) mailed a "Notification concerning Submission or Transmittal of Priority Document" which indicated that EP priority document number 98203871.3 had been received on 23 December 1999 for international application number PCT/EP99/08702.

On 14 September 2001, the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) mailed a Notification of Acceptance of Application that acknowledged receipt of several items including, inter alia, the basic national fee and a copy of the international application. The notification did not acknowledge receipt of the priority document.

On 09 November 2001, applicants filed, inter alia, the present Request for Acknowledgement of Receipt of the Priority Document

DISCUSSION

PCT Rule 17.2(a) states in part:

Where the applicant has complied with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau shall, at the specific request of the designated Office, promptly but not prior to the international publication of the international application, furnish a copy of the priority document to that Office. No such Office shall ask the applicant himself to furnish it with a copy.

In accordance with PCT Rule 17.2(a), the US Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) has requested a copy of application number EP 98203871.3 from the IB. The applicant has no obligation to furnish a certified copy of this priority document to the DO/EO/US.

CONCLUSION

The applicants need not provide a certified copy of the priority document, EP 98203871.3. The DO/EO/US has requested a copy of the priority document in accordance with PCT Rule 17.2(a).

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